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COUNTRY GERMANY	REPORT NO. 52A-5186	(LEAVE BLANK) LP/37566
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Sociological and Political Conditions in the USSR	(INTERVIEWER) GOGROEF, Helmut (FW)	(EDITOR) WALSH
AREA REPORTED ON VORKUTA, STALINGRAD, USSR GOMEL, DOBRUSH, GORKIY, KIROV, MOSCOW, /	FROM (Agency) 7050th AISW USAF	
DATE OF REPORT 8 Feb 54	DATE OF INFORMATION May 45 - Dec 53	EVALUATION C-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) SHIRLEY A. KOLPIN, Lt Col, USAF	SOURCE 217753	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) (52A-5190)		

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclusions at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

1. SOURCE was born on 22 Oct 25 in EBERBACH (4928N-0900E), eight years elementary school, three years trade school, training as cook in hotel school, civilian profession: cook; reads, speaks Russian fairly well.

2. SOURCE was confined in the following camps in the USSR: From May 45 to Nov 45 in GOMEL (5225N-3100E), number of PW camp unknown, recalled /5, worked on state farm where he had little contact, with Soviet guards only, from Nov 45 to Jul 47 he was confined in PW camp in DOBRUSH (5225N-3118E), number unknown, recalled /11, worked in paper mill, where he had working contact with Russian labor force; from Jul 47 to Aug 48 he was re-assigned to PW camps, numbers unknown, recalled /1, and /2 in GOMEL, where he worked in an agricultural machinery plant as common worker, had working contact with Russian labor force; on 25 Aug 48, SOURCE was tried and sentenced to 25 years in GOMEL, then he was routed through transit prisons in MOSCOW (5545N-3735E), GORKIY (5617N-4355E), KIROV (5835N-4940E), and from Nov 48 to Aug 50 he was confined in "SPEZIAL REGIME LAGER #7" (Special Regime Camp #7) in VORKUTA (6730N-6403E), where he worked in a brickyard for three months and had contact with Russian criminals and political prisoners, the rest of this time he stayed in camp being unable to work. From Aug 50 to Dec 53, SOURCE was confined in PW Camp #5110/47 in STALINGRAD (5842N-4430E), where he worked on several constr projects in the town, on the VOLGA-DON Canal, and in a rolling mill.

a. SOURCE was tried and convicted as "member of the 87th Murder and Arson Division" on charges of "Proven Crimes against Peace and Humanity" by a Soviet military tribunal in GOMEL on 25 Aug 1948. The sentence was pronounced as death sentence but commuted to 25 years in an "ARBEITS- UND BESSERUNGSLAGER" (Labor and Correction Camp). Trial lasted ten minutes. Prosecutor was a Soviet Lieutenant Colonel; one judge of the rank of lieutenant colonel; two jurors in officers' rank, one female Russian interpreter, civilian; one secretary. To SOURCE's knowledge, all PWs were released with the exception of commanding generals and intelligence officers (IC). No "system of discharge" could be discerned by SOURCE.

3. SOURCE was very cooperative, seemed of above average intelligence, and it appeared that he made some good observations while confined in PW and labor camps. There were no contradictions, and he tried to offer as profound a picture as he was able to recollect in due consideration of his limited perspectives.

B. SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARDS GENERAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS:

4. SOURCE would single out farmers and large portions of workers as being particularly opposed to the regime. He also considered elements of officials as rather unreliable. In STALINGRAD, SOURCE talked to a female member of the "City

No INCL.

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E. FORCED LABOR CAMPS:

23. From Nov 48 to Aug 50 SOURCE was confined in Special Regime Camp #7 in VORKUTA, approximately 2,500 inmates, Germans, Russians, Poles, Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians, Hungarians, Rumanians, Spaniards, (Reds and FRANCO Spaniards), Japanese. Most of the prisoners were political prisoners, some of the Russian inmates were criminals. Only Russians remained in camp in 1950, while other nationalities were re-distributed to other camps. Some of the inmates came from the SZG who remained with Russians in camp. Political prisoners were required to work 12 hours a day, criminals 8 hours, place of work was a clay pit and a brickyard. There were talks that over 90 forced labor camps existed in the greater area of VORKUTA, all camps densely occupied, population estimated at over one million people. Details on other camps unknown.

24. In Oct 48, SOURCE saw one individual called "The American" in transit prison in KIROV. He talked with him. Man wore a good civilian suit, age 35, 1.8 m, heavy set, corpulent, almost black hair, pale complexion, black mustache, spoke English and broken German. In his group was one Pole, one Rumanian formerly military attaché, all wore civilian clothing. Names unknown. Were also assigned to VORKUTA, but were never seen there afterwards. Heard that they were taken off the train 500 km before reaching VORKUTA.

25. In 1949/50 all criminal prisoners from SOURCE's camp in VORKUTA were transferred to camps in the Urals, while political prisoners stayed pending transfer in 1950. Other info not available.

26. No atrocities on a mass scale were learned. Maximum lifetime of a political prisoner in VORKUTA was estimated at eight years average.

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